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KAV'S ACCUSER TO TESTIFY

Christine Blasey Ford agreed to speak Thursday. 4

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Monday, September 24, 2018 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: Me

Five months after he was convicted of sexual assault, Bill Cosby will find out whether he faces prison or probation when his sentencing begins today. 6-7

COSBY FINDS OUT HIS FATE

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

New doc tells Jane Fonda's story in five acts. 14-15

Eagles win 20-16 in Wentz's debut. 18

5 THINGS TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

Bill Cosby has been one of Philadelphia's most fortunate native sons for decades, as well as one of the nation's most popular comedians and public speakers. His personal worth was once estimated at $400 million. But his personal legacy and reputation was shredded after some 60 women accused him of drugging and sexually assaulting them in incidents dating back to the '70s. Convicted of sexual assault earlier this year in Montgomery County for a 2004 incident, Cosby today is due to be sentenced, but the judge may or may not send him to prison. Read more inside and visit **metrophilly.us** for continued coverage.

TIGER WOODS WINS, ENDS FIVE-YEAR DROUGHT

1 Tiger Woods won his first title since 2013 when he captured the Tour Championship by two strokes in Atlanta on Sunday and proved to the golf world that he is far from done. Woods led throughout the final round and finished at 11-under-par 269 at East Lake, where he carded a closing 71 for his 80th PGA Tour victory. Amid raucous scenes, with the massive gallery chanting his name as he played the final hole, he tapped in to move within two victories of Sam Snead's all-time record of 82 titles. "I was having a hard time not crying coming up the last hole," Woods said in a greenside interview. "It was just a ground out there. I loved every bit of it — the fight, the grind, the tough conditions. "You just had to suck it up and hit shots." The victory capped off a season that started with questions over whether the 42-year-old would even be able to play a full schedule after undergoing spinal fusion surgery in April 2017. "My body was a wreck," recalled Woods, who hoped the surgery would alleviate debilitating back and leg pain.

3-D GUN PUBLISHER JAILED ON SEX ASSAULT CHARGE

2 A Texas man running a 3-D printed guns company was booked into a Houston jail on a charge of sexual assault on Sunday after Taiwanese officials sent him back to the United States, where he is accused of having sex with an underage girl. Cody Wilson, 30, flew to Taiwan after learning he was under investigation, police said, and was picked up by Taiwanese authorities on Friday after his U.S. passport was annulled. He was deported to the United States on Saturday. He was booked into Harris County jail in Houston on Sunday, according to the jail's website. As the founder of Defense Distributed, Wilson became a notable figure in the U.S. debate over guns after the company posted on the internet the blueprints for plastic guns that can be made with a 3-D printer. The files could previously be downloaded for free, but a federal judge issued a nationwide injunction last month that blocked the posting of the blueprints online. Wilson was placed under investigation after a counselor on Aug. 22 told authorities a 16-year-old girl said she was paid $500 to have sex with Wilson at an Austin hotel, police said.

PHILLY'S FIRST RESPONDERS HOST 'HERO THRILL SHOW' FUNDRAISER

3 Members of the Philadelphia Police and Fire departments participate in the Hero Thrill Show, an annual event raising money for children of fallen first responders, outside the Wells Fargo Center in South Philadelphia on Saturday.

GETTY IMAGES

FLO'S DANGER REMAINS AS FLOODWATERS RECEDE

4 Nearly all rivers and waterways in North and South Carolina will crest Sunday, but most will remain at dangerous flood levels for days to come, the U.S. National Weather Service warned, more than a week after the arrival of Hurricane Florence, which has killed at least 40 people. Swaths of rivers near the Atlantic coast will not crest for days to come, such as the lower Cape Fear River near Wilmington, N.C., one of the hardest-hit communities, said Bob Oravec, a meteorologist with the NWS' Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Md. "This isn't over," Oravec said early Sunday. "Large sections of rivers near the coast won't start cresting until at least early in the week, maybe later ... All that water is going to take a good while to recede," he said. "Damage can still be done. It'll be a slow drop." Meanwhile, remnants of the once mighty storm brought heavy rains northwest up the Ohio Valley, prompting flood watches and warnings from Texas to Virginia and Maryland, at least through Monday, the weather service said.

TRUMP EXPECTED TO TOUT N. KOREA PROGRESS AT UN

5 A year after Donald Trump threatened to "totally destroy" North Korea in his first speech at the United Nations, the U.S. president will return to the podium in New York this week to tout diplomatic efforts that have reduced the risk of war. But even if Trump's rhetoric at the annual United Nations General Assembly is expected to differ sharply from his 2017 address in which he mocked North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as "Rocket Man" on a "suicide mission," some U.S. officials and analysts say Pyongyang has yet to take concrete measures to show it is prepared to give up a nuclear arsenal that threatens the United States. The change of mood was sealed when Trump and Kim met for an unprecedented summit on June 12 in Singapore, and in the past week, the North Korean leader promised South Korean President Moon Jae-in dismantlement of a missile site and nuclear complex — if the United States takes "corresponding action." While appearing to set a positive tone, the commitments fell far short of Washington's demands for a complete inventory of North Korea's weapons programs and irreversible steps toward denuclearization.

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Activists demonstrate on Capitol Hill against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh. GETTY IMAGES

Kavanaugh accuser to testify Thursday in Senate: Lawyers

There are still questions as to who will question Christine Blasey Ford.

California professor Christine Blasey Ford has agreed to testify before a Senate panel on Thursday morning about her sexual assault allegations against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, her lawyers said on Sunday.

The lawyers said they made "important progress" in a morning call with Senate Judiciary Committee staff members and agreed to the hearing even though the committee refused to subpoena Mark Judge, who Ford said witnessed the attack at a high school party, as well as others who she said were present.

"Despite actual threats to her safety and her life, Dr. Ford believes it is important for Senators to hear directly from her about the sexual assault committed against her," said the statement from attorneys Debra Katz, Lisa Banks and Michael Bromwich.

"She has agreed to move forward with a hearing even though the Committee has refused to subpoena Mark Judge," it said. "They have also refused to invite other witnesses who are essential for a fair hearing that arrives at the truth about the sexual assault."

"Despite actual threats to her safety and her life, Dr. Ford believes it is important for Senators to hear directly from her about the sexual assault committed against her."

Attorneys Debra Katz, Lisa Banks and Michael Bromwich, in a statement

U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley had set a Saturday afternoon deadline for Ford to decide whether and how she will testify. Ford said Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her at a high school party 36 years ago, pinning her down and trying to take off her clothes, when she was 15 and he was 17.

Kavanaugh, a conservative federal appeals court judge, has denied the allegations and said he would be willing to testify.

Her lawyers tentatively agreed to a hearing on Saturday and announced a definite answer after additional conversations on Sunday.

There are unresolved procedural and logistical issues, they said, including whether the committee's Republican senators, who are all male, or staff attorneys would question her.

Republicans will be forced to walk a careful line in questioning Ford's account without alienating female voters ahead of the November congressional elections.

President Donald Trump has defended his Supreme Court nominee and questioned why Ford did not report the incident to police.

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Bill Cosby faces sentencing for sex assault on Sept. 24, 2018. GETTY IMAGES

Cosby's fate to be decided Monday

With his legacy in tatters, Bill Cosby is scheduled to be sentenced on Monday for a 2004 sexual assault.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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Bill Cosby, 81, legally blind, having seen his comedic and cultural legacy turned to ash, now could be headed to prison.

Cosby's sentencing on three counts of involuntary indecent assault, for drugging and molesting former Temple University employee Andrea Constand in his Cheltenham mansion in 2004, is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 24 in Norristown.

Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas judge Steven T. O'Neill, who has rejected attacks on his character and ethics by attorneys for Cosby, could send Cosby to prison, but he could also opt for a sentence that involves no prison time. Sentencing guidelines are flexible for this type of charge, and O'Neill has broad discretion on Sept. 24.

"What's the cost-benefit analysis to locking him up? Is he a danger to society? You're going to have to spend a lot of time to protect him from other offenders."

Ross Allen, Rutgers-Camden criminal justice professor

The maximum sentence for indecent sexual assault is 10 years.

But O'Neill could sentence Cosby to house arrest or probation. Cosby's lawyers will likely plead for leniency based on his age and other factors. Even if sentenced to prison, he will have options for appeal — and O'Neill will have to decide between ordering him remanded to state custody immediately or letting him remain free on house arrest until Cosby's appeals are exhausted.

Experts have said Cosby likely will not go to prison.

"What's the cost-benefit analysis to locking him up? Is he a danger to society? You're going to have to spend a lot of time to protect him from other offenders," Rutgers-Camden criminal justice professor Ross Allen previously told Metro. "There's a good chance the judge is going to let him stay out while the appeals process is underway, that's two or three years. At what point do they say the biggest punishment he'll ever face is the loss of his legacy?"

On the other hand, Cosby has been unrepentant for his crimes, called Montco DA Kevin Steele an "a--hole" after being found guilty in April, and has accused O'Neill himself of being unethical in recent 11th-hour filings to have the judge recused. All of these issues could be considered by the judge in weighing an appropriate sentence.

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The rise and fall of Bill Cosby

Bill Cosby has for decades been a truly inspiring American success story. But revelations of his serial sexual assaults on women stretches back to the early years of his career, and casts a grim shadow over his years starring as "America's Dad" on one of the most popular primetime sitcoms of all time.

1. **January 2004:** Andrea Constand, a director of administration for the Temple women's basketball team who has befriended Cosby, goes to his Elkins Park mansion. Cosby gives her three blue pills to "relax" and a glass of wine. She later recounted waking up semiconscious as Cosby molested her. Constand remains in contact with Cosby after moving back to Ontario, and accepts free tickets from him to take her parents to see his August 2004 comedy show in Canada.
2. **January 2005:** Constand reports the molestation to Canadian police, who contact authorities in Montgomery County.
3. **Feb. 22, 2005:** Montco DA Bruce Castor announces a decision not to file criminal charges.
4. **March 2005:** Constand sues Cosby. In his deposition for the lawsuit, Cosby admits to giving women Quaaludes and Benadryl. Cosby settles in 2006 for $3.4 million.
5. **Oct. 17, 2014:** During a show at the Trocadero in Philadelphia, comic Hannibal Burress calls Bill Cosby a "rapist" and urges the audience to "Google it." In the following weeks and months, the story goes viral.
6. **November 2014:** Allegations against Cosby go "viral," and NBC cans its planned new sitcom starring Cosby. Netflix shelves a planned new Cosby comedy special.
7. **July 2015:** The Associated Press reports on Cosby's confessions from the Constand deposition.
8. **December 2015:** Newly elected Montco DA Kevin Steele indicts Cosby, just days before the 10-year statute of limitations runs out.
9. **June 2017:** Cosby's first trial ends in a mistrial due to a hung jury.
10. **Feb. 23, 2018:** Cosby's daughter Ensa dies of renal failure while awaiting a kidney transplant.
11. **April 26, 2018:** Cosby is convicted on three counts of indecent sexual assault after his retrial, at which five other accusers were allowed to testify.
12. **Sept. 24, 2018:** Cosby's sentencing is scheduled.

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11 West Nile virus infections found in Philly

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health is urging the public to exercise caution.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

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The Philadelphia health department announced that it had confirmed 11 cases of West Nile in Philadelphia last week.

Ten of those patients, eight of whom were over 50 years old, had neuroinvasive infections and had to be hospitalized. (The 11th patient only developed a fever.)

None of these infections were fatal, but one out of 150 patients who catch West Nile virus can develop inflammation of the brain or spine, causing aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, or flaccid paralysis, which could be fatal.

Now, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health is spreading the word about the West Nile virus' presence in the city and asking for the public's help combatting the further spread of the disease. Officials urged residents to follow two key steps: wear bug spray and dump any standing water around their homes, which can be a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

"We all have a role in preventing the spread of West Nile virus," Philadelphia Health Commissioner Thomas Farley said in a statement Friday. "It's easy to do: wear mosquito repellent and dump out standing water."

To prevent its spread, the Philly health department's Vector Control Services program has been working to control mosquito populations.

So far this year, they have treated 57,000 storm drain inlets with larvicide to prevent the species from breeding and potentially spreading West Nile, they said. Four aerosol sprays were conducted in areas of Philly where West Nile was found, they said.

West Nile virus is a viral infection spread by mosquito bites. Though most people — 8 out of 10, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — infected do not have any symptoms, the virus can cause high fever and flu-like illness. In rare cases, people can develop severe, sometimes fatal, illness.

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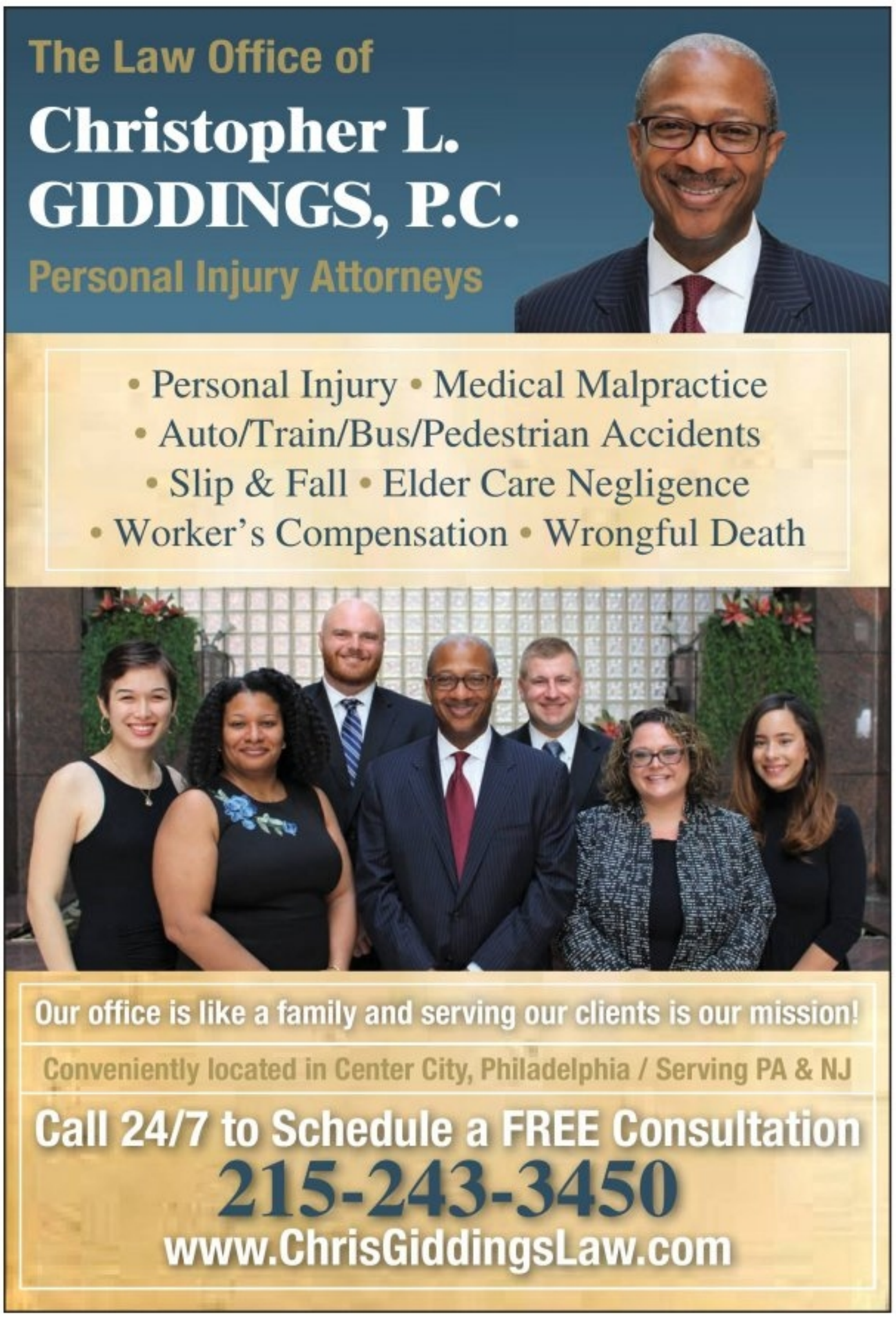
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Atlantic City is again becoming 'a drag'

Miss'd America Pageant aside, there is a long off-and-on history of drag in and out of the casinos.

A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

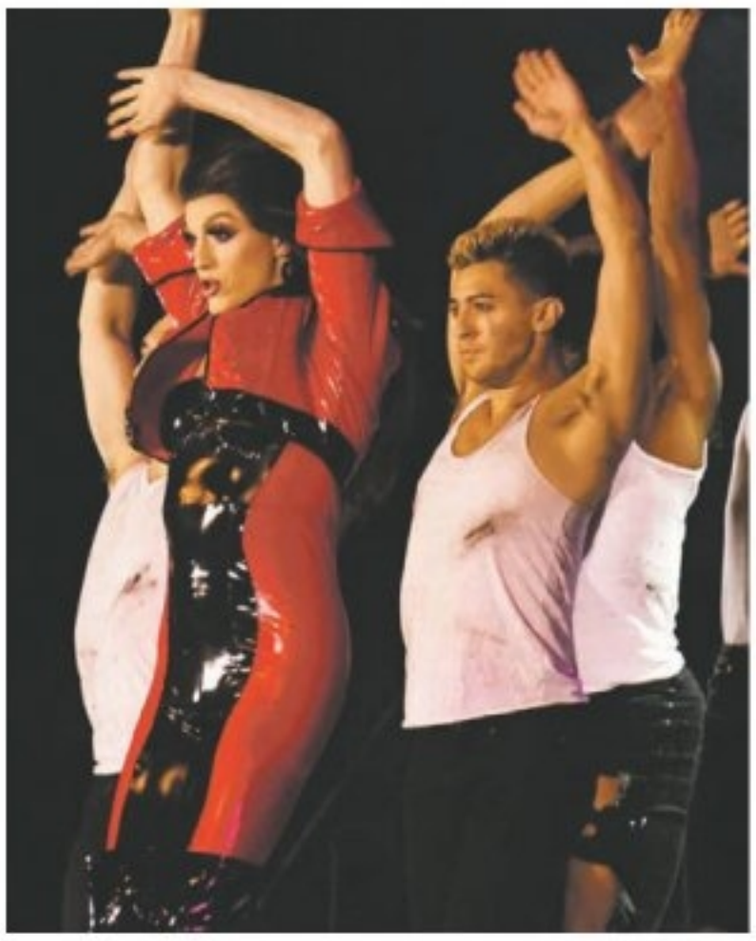
Mere weeks after Atlantic City's controversial 2019 Miss America Competition at Boardwalk Hall, the Greater Atlantic City GLBT Alliance and the Borgata (via its OUT Initiative), got together again for its annual drag Miss'd America Pageant, and this year's Broadway-themed "Great White Way" event. Billed as a "Hilarious Drag Queen Spoof of Atlantic City's OTHER Pageant," Miss'd America did, as it has in the past, bring Carson Kressley in as the host, with the Miss'd America Dancers in full regalia, all scripted and directed by Mark Dahl, and with Miss'd New York, Adriana Trenta coming out as the victor.

"As a charity pageant, Miss'd America is a good way for the casinos to give back to the community by hosting our event, especially as the monies we raise go to various local city charities and state charities as well," said Mortimer Spreng, a Greater Atlantic City GLBT Alliance board director and a producer of the Miss'd America Pageant. "I'm like their drag den mother, I handle concerns they have, help them with problems, get them everything they need, and make sure they are where they are supposed to be, on time and ready."

Not only is Spreng a Miss'd America titleholder (Miss'd 1995, a year after the pageant started), he is a board member of the South Jersey AIDS Alliance, and a face of the AC LGBTQ and drag scenes.

As a longtime native, Spreng knows where all the bodies are buried and has watched this town's transitions when it's come to AC's gay life lines, drag shows and overall environment. "This Miss'd America was a great night," stated Spreng. "The feedback I got from the audience was that the

"The feedback I got from the audience was that the show was very entertaining, the contestants were all very polished and fun."
Mortimer Spreng, Greater Atlantic City GLBT Alliance board director



show was very entertaining, the contestants were all very polished and fun. Of course, Carson Kressley was a panic, very funny with the quips and sharp wit."

At a moment when the drag medium is at an all-time glamorous high (with levels of acceptance courtesy the mainstream success and popularity of RuPaul's "Drag Race"), and LGBTQ rights are in question with the current presidential administration (Spreng was part of Atlantic County's Democratic Committee before Trump's 2016 election), Atlantic City is in flux.

That's true too, where the town's main revenue stream — casinos — is concerned. The Borgata has their "OUT at Borgata" initiative, have hosted Miss'd America for years now, and have a lock on local drag at the moment, booking as they do, "the RuPaul girls" when they go on tour, and host Drag Bingo to boot. Anthem Lounge at the Tropicana also dips a toe into drag waters, hosting "Diva Royale" drag events on weekend nights and Sunday afternoons.

"The gay scene has changed over the years, although the core population has moved offshore and are aging," noted Spreng. "Atlantic City itself integrated rather easily, many of the casinos promote themselves as LGBTQ-friendly, and they go out of their way to cater to the community. I see gay folk holding hands as they walk on the Boardwalk, and dancing together in all the 'straight' clubs, and no one bothers them. The drag scene has stagnated, though — there is only one truly gay bar in AC now. They have drag shows, but they don't have a revolving cast of performers like we used to back in the '80s, '90s, and early 2000s."

$300,500

A portion of Miss'd America proceeds go to the Greater Atlantic City GLBT Alliance. Since its inception, the pageant has donated over $300,500.

Miss'd America's New Jersey contestant, Jason "Margeaux" Hayes, had a fascinating observation about how the pageant could benefit Atlantic City's drag and gay scenes. Along with having a portion of its proceeds go to the Greater Atlantic City GLBT Alliance, who distribute the cash to various LGBTQ and LGBTQ-supportive charities (since its inception, the pageant has donated over $300,500), the Maplewood native noted that Miss'd America "brings queens from all over the country who meet and get exposure to the drag queens of Atlantic City, and vice-versa," said Hayes.

"Friendships and connections are formed and networks are started, that last a lifetime. Everyone shares in that to further work and the rest of the queens in the country get to see what Atlantic City's scene has to offer."

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Pat King
Grumble Editor

I think we all need a reminder sometimes that we need to pay attention to our surroundings. That goes ten-fold when we are taking public transportation. What are some of your public transit horror stories? Make sure to send us your Grumbles to **grumble@metro.us**!

READER WRITE-INS:

GET YOUR BUTT OUT OF MY FACE!
Did you ever have a situation where you are sitting on public transportation and someone gets on the train or bus and sticks their butt in your face before sitting down? I don't like when they bend over to put their stuff down while sticking their butt right at your face. It may not be on purpose, but it would be great if people be mindful of who is behind them. We don't want to smell your a--. Turn your butt away from people's faces while getting yourself together before sitting down.
— **Ingrid Pitt**, *Metro US reader*

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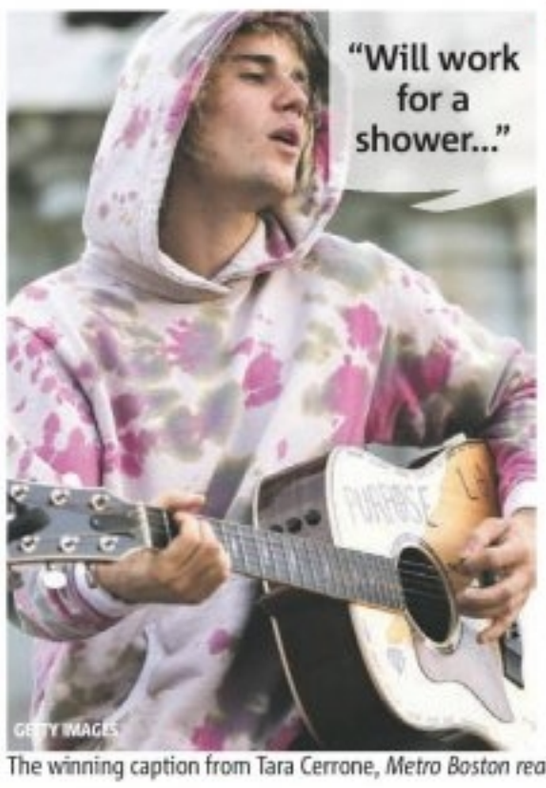

The winning caption from Tara Cerrone, *Metro Boston reader*

TOMORROW'S PHOTO:

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Settle in and get things done. You'll face criticism if you aren't prepared or fail to finish what you start. Don't let a relationship problem interrupt your progress.

Taurus A hasty decision will result in a costly mistake. Take your time and do things right from the get-go. Patience is a virtue. Don't let someone pressure you.

Gemini Your intelligence will help you surpass anyone who tries to compete with you, as long as you don't let the actions of others distract you.

Cancer Do something that will make you feel good. Pampering yourself, getting a makeover or spending time with a loved one will help ease stress.

Leo Listen carefully and make up your own mind. An offer to achieve peace and tranquility through unorthodox means should be politely declined.

Virgo A business trip or meeting will encourage you to take on new challenges. Educational pursuits will change your way of thinking and pursuing goals.

Libra Embrace change with a positive attitude. Knowing what you want as opportunities arise will be a direct result of being prepared for whatever comes your way.

Scorpio Be passionate about the positive changes you want to make. Take a unique position when sharing your opinion or recommendations.

Sagittarius Do what you can to give back to others. Donate your time or offer your services, but don't let anyone take advantage of your generosity. An emotional incident should be handled carefully.

Capricorn You'll be tempted to make a change, but first you must iron out the particulars. Be open to suggestions; a combination of old and new ideas is favored.

Aquarius Put your energy to work for you instead of letting it make your life more difficult. Refuse to let anxiety get the better of you when positive change is what's required.

Pisces A change to the way you look or feel is apparent. Search for an innovative way to enhance your appearance. A settlement or gain is heading your way. EUGENIA LAST

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5 Fun things to do in Philly this week

Eat gourmet fried chicken, experience a 1920's speakeasy and more.

MOLLY GIVEN
letters@metro.us

Not sure what to do this week in Philly? Don't even sweat it — we have the lowdown on the best events going on in the city. From gourmet fried chicken to a 1920s themed speakeasy, here are five fun things to do in Philly this week.

You can get Square 1682's fried chicken every Monday. SQUARE 1682

Football & Fried Chicken Mondays at Square 1682
Philly is a city that loves its sports, especially Football. What is better to pair with football then gourmet fried chicken served up with a pint of refreshing beer? New executive chef Mackenson Horebe is offering four pieces of fried chicken, two sides and two bottles of Pilsner Urquells for a total of $25. Square 1682 takes Monday night football to another level with a projector screen so fans can experience every game to the fullest.
Every Monday night through the Superbowl, 5 p.m.- 10 p.m., Square 1682, 121 S 17th St., $ 25, square1682.com

Science After Hours: Speakeasy
Step into the past with a 1920s theme speakeasy. Explore the drinking culture of the prohibition era with gambling, jazz, and lots of gin. Period costumes are encouraged. Id's will be checked at the door.
Sept. 25, 7 p.m.-10p.m., Franklin Institute, 222 N 20th St., Philadelphia, $15-$20, must be 21+, fi.edu

Philadelphia Fashion Week
For seven nights Philly Fashion Week brings high-end designers, exquisite beauty products, runway shows and plenty of shopping opportunities to the City of Brotherly Love. There are different runway shows every day with 40 designers showcasing their lines including the Philadelphia Fashion Incubator Fashion Show. The full schedule is available online.
Sept. 24- 30, Various times and locations, prices vary on the show, phillyfashionweek.org

The Nationals hit the stage this week in Philly. GETTY IMAGES

The Nationals at The Mann Center
Two decade's worth of classic music from this Indie rock band all packed into one eventful night. Enjoy the sounds of the beloved American rock band from Cincinnati. Since 1999 The National has dazzled fans with their unique sounds and performances, this is a show you don't want to miss.
September 27, 7 p.m.-11 p.m., The Mann Center, 5201 Parkside Ave, Philadelphia, $40-$70, manncenter.org

Illuminated fountain performances at Longwood Gardens
Every year Longwood Gardens features their fountain and light show that brings music to life with colors and spectacular fountain tricks. Each night has a different theme to enjoy. Before or after the 30-minute show you can take a stroll through the gorgeous five-acre garden to truly make it a night to remember. But that's not all, this year there are also daytime shows to enjoy as well. The website has the full schedule for each show.
Various days/nights and times through Oct. 27, Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square, ticket prices vary, longwoodgardens.org

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How Jane Fonda defied become America's most

Susan Lacy talks us through her HBO documentary "Jane Fonda In Five Acts."

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

Director Susan Lacy has been wanting to make a documentary about Jane Fonda since she read her autobiography in 2005.

Lacy instantly recognized that Fonda's life and career was ripe for such a film. Not just because of her story as an actress and an activist, but as the daughter of Hollywood legend Henry Fonda. She also knew there would be mountains of material to work with.

Lacy was surprised by just how much access and footage she was able to get, all of which helped her to make a definitive and all-encompassing piece that reveals how Jane was able to merge her talent with her activism to become the most important actress in American history.

"In Jane's own book she said she was writing the book to try and understand her first two acts she could try to live out her third," Lacey tells Metro. "The notion of acts was embedded in my brain when I made this film. When I studied her story and interviewed her, which I did 12 long times that came to over 20 hours of footage, her life really was, even though she didn't structure the book that way, structured by the four men in her life."

The fact that both the film and Jane's life are able to be structured into five acts made us wonder if Lacy had considered the famous F. Scott Fitzgerald remark, "There are no second acts in American lives," while making it.

"Of course I did. I am a huge Fitzgerald fan. You think of that often. I think he is wrong. There are many second acts. The aspiration to have a second act is what Gatsby is all about," admits Lacy. "I don't think Jane does it consciously. She is very meticulous, very professional, she is very ordered. But I also think there is a lot of spontaneity in her life. She goes with the flow."

Despite the trials and tribulations that Jane has experienced in her extraordinary life in activism and in her career as an actress, Lacy insists that the actress has never been concerned with how the public perceived her.

"Public image is a concern for everybody, but particularly celebri-

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fame and mistakes to important actress

"Jane Fonda in Five Acts" debuts tonight on HBO. GETTY IMAGES

ties. I don't think that was ever a concern for her. I think she operates in a different place," says Lacy. "Of course, it is a tricky terrain. Especially when you are hated. And you get out there on the frontline and you speak up and you make some mistakes, some of the mistakes she made in Vietnam still haunt her 50 years later."

"She has lived a brave and unfettered life. I don't she thinks about the impact that things are gonna have," she adds. "I think she is surprised at the impact she has had. And she is really surprised at the career she is having at the age of 80. I don't think she expected it."

"Jane Fonda in Five Acts" airs tonight at 8 p.m. on HBO.

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'Acting runs in my blood'

Iain Armitage

The child actor, best known for his starring role as Sheldon Cooper in "Young Sheldon," a spin-off prequel to "The Big Bang Theory," chats with Metro.

PHILIPP KOVALYOV
MWN
letters@metro.us

"Young Sheldon" returns Sept. 24. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Your father is an actor, and your mother is a theater producer. What role did they play in your passion for theater?
None. It's natural, I guess. It runs in my blood, some people would say.

How did your journey into acting begin?
It wasn't like, "Oh, I wanna be an actor. Sign me up to be an actor. How do we do this? Let's do this!" It was more like an agency called and asked, "Do you want us to represent you?" They saw my theater reviews, and we said yes. My agents are really awesome and I love them so much.

Do you like theater or TV more?
Definitely theater, which is sadly ironic. I just think that I'd prefer to watch a live show than to watch a television show. I don't know why, I just do.

How were the auditions for "Young Sheldon"?
I had a three-page-long monologue, which was really hard to do on video. So we sent it in and I got a call. After they said I got the part, I jumped up and down like a maniac.

Jim Parsons is an executive producer in the series. How is your relationship?
He's actually not at the set a lot. He was there only for the pilot, and then ... he had to go back to "Big Bang."

How did you get used to the role?
Mostly just talking with Mr. Jim.

What are the differences between you and the younger Sheldon?
You mean between me in real life and on set? There is a big difference. But we both love science and we both are really passionate about certain things. So there are few similarities.

Did you watch "The Big Bang Theory"?
I watched a few clips, but otherwise, not really.

How often do you watch TV?
I'd rather read a book or play.

How do you combine acting and studying?
Well, legally we have to get three hours of schooling on set. I am 9.5 hours every day on set, but that includes a lunch break which is an hour, three hours of school, a bunch of breaks. … So it's only about 3.5 to four hours of filming. That's actually not as much as it sounds.

Which subjects do you like the most?
I like history and reading.

Who would you like to become in the future?
I'm not really sure. Either magician, gemologist or geologist.

Between the posters and fans recognizing you, do you feel like a celebrity?
Not really, because I am just proud to be doing something that makes people happy. And I'm happy to be part of something that does it. I just love that.

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Adam Rippon on finding your Olympic work ethic

We caught up with the Olympian ahead of his appearance at the Forbes Under 30 Summit.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

Adam Rippon is much more than an athlete. The Olympic figure skater and political activist captured hearts during the PyeongChang Winter Olympics where he and the rest of the U.S. men's figure skating team took home bronze, making him the first openly gay U.S. man athlete to win an award at the games.

Rippon has also fought for the LGBTQ community, famously taking issue with the presence of Vice President Mike Pence at the Olympics. Since then, Rippon has received a wide range of recognition including being named to TIME Magazine's 100 List of Most Influential People.

We caught up with Rippon before his appearance at the Forbes Under 30 Summit in Boston this fall.

What's the key to having an Olympic-level work ethic?

I think that when I was skating everyday — especially training for the Olympics — to be honest, I didn't walk into the rink every single day and be like, "I love what I'm doing!" There were definitely days where I walked in and said, "I don't want to be here. I'm too tired to do this. This is way too stressful." When I had days like that I made sure to find joy in the little things. So, I made sure that I set little goals for myself for that day so that I could make it through that day and still feel accomplished.

I think that the lessons that I learned from sports are the lessons that I will take with me through my entire life. It's totally normal to feel stagnant or to feel stuck. But if you set little goals to meet up with your big goals, it's going to make you feel like you're making progress. So that you can end every day and feel like you're a champion every single day.

How has that work ethic helped you cope with failure and keep success in perspective?

What sports taught me the most is that there is no such thing as a failure unless you've failed to try. When things don't go well or when you've made mistakes, I think that mistakes can happen and that it's only a failure if you've failed to learn from your mistakes.

What are your feelings on how athletes in your position should use your platform to speak truth to power?

I think that athletes have an incredible opportunity to use their voice to help make change. I think that sports have always been one of those things that really gets political. I think that a lot of people think that they should keep politics out of sports.

But when you have someone like Colin Kaepernick who is trying to speak about police brutality, he is giving a voice to people who don't have the opportunity that he has. Him being out there on the field and him kneeling for the anthem is a very peaceful protest and he is within his right to do that. It's people like Colin who helped give me the confidence to speak out against the Vice President when I was at the Olympic Games. I think that in this day and age, people have such an opportunity to see what their favorite athletes are doing. You can see where they are, who they are, what they're about all through different social media platforms...

I applaud other athletes that speak out and talk about their beliefs because I think it's so important and they have huge platforms. A lot of athletes come from humble beginnings and their roots are not in the glamorous lifestyles... I think that when they speak their opinions we should listen to what they have to say.

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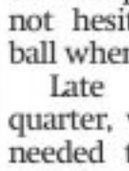
3 Things from Eagles' 20-16 win over Colts

Wentz, defense lead Eagles to victory over Indy.



JOVAN ALFORD
jovan.alford@metro.us

Carson Wentz helped lead the Eagles to victory in his 2018 debut. GETTY IMAGES

1. WENTZ'S DEBUT

The third-year quarterback quickly knocked off the rust on Sunday afternoon, despite not playing a snap of meaningful football in nine months. He completed 68 percent of his passes for 255 yards with a touchdown and interception.

Wentz came out firing on his first offensive drive, getting tight ends Zach Ertz, Dallas Goedert and Josh Perkins all involved in the passing game.

Speaking of Goedert, Wentz hooked up with his fellow FCS counterpart for a 13-yard touchdown to get the Eagles on the scoreboard first.

Wentz also showed off his mobility in this game. He extended plays outside of the pocket and was not hesitant to run the ball when necessary.

Late in the fourth quarter, when the Eagles needed to score, Wentz somehow escaped the Colts' pass rush and delivered a pass on third down to wide receiver Nelson Agholor on third down for an acrobatic first down.

The former second overall pick did a job of protecting himself from taking huge hits, which is a good sign to see for Eagles fans.

There were a lot of positives to take away from Wentz's debut, despite the previously mentioned mistakes. Hopefully, he will use this game as a lesson and continue his upwards trend next week against the Tennessee Titans.

2. RUNNING GAME COMES ALIVE

Heading into this week's game, the Eagles knew they were going to be without both Jay Ajayi and Darren Sproles.

Ajayi suffered a back injury early in last Sunday's game against the Buccaneers, while Sproles was dealing with a hamstring injury. Both players did not participate in practice during the week.

Therefore, the Eagles needed the running back trio of Josh Adams, Corey Clement and Wendell Smallwood to all step up against the Colts.

And to the surprise of everybody, they did just that, picking up 152 yards yards on the ground to help the Eagles to victory.

Each running back had their moments throughout the game as Smallwood matched his rushing yards total from last week in the first quarter with 28 yards.

The former West Virginia product finished with 56 rushing yards and a touchdown late in the fourth quarter to give the Eagles the lead. Smallwood also had a nice catch for 34 yards late in the second quarter to put Philly in field goal range.

Clement also had a good game with 75 total yards. The second-year running back found a lot success running the ball east-west, which was due to good blocking by the offensive line.

Finally, undrafted free agent Josh Adams had a solid debut himself. Despite getting stuffed on his first carry, Adams ripped off runs of 16 and 10 yards to finish with 30 yards on the day.

3. DEFENSE STANDS TALL

After getting torched last Sunday by quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick and the Buccaneers, the Eagles defense clamped down on Indianapolis.

It was a total group effort as they held the Colts to two Adam Vinateri field goals in back-to-back red zone opportunities in the third quarter.

The defense also did the same thing to begin the fourth quarter, after Colts defensive end Margus Hunt got a strip sack on Wentz late in the third quarter.

And what about quarterback Andrew Luck? The veteran signal-caller completed a pedestrian 63 percent of his passes for 163 yards and a touchdown. The secondary did a great job of keeping Colts wide receivers T.Y. Hilton and Ryan Grant in front of them and eliminated those big plays.

Nevertheless, the Eagles did a good job in all three phases of the game and executed, specifically on defense. They will now go back on the road next week to take another AFC South in the Tennessee Titans.

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Flyers get glimpse of future in crease

Carter Hart made his first official appearance with the club.

ERIC GOLDSTEIN
sports@metro.us

Mark it down.

At 8:20 p.m. on Sept. 17, 2018 at the Wells Fargo Center, goalie Carter Hart made his long-awaited debut for the Philadelphia Flyers.

OK, let's pump the brakes.

We know it was in a preseason game and against an Islanders squad that had more players destined for the AHL than a NHL roster. However, the most hyped and heralded young player in the organization's history since Eric Lindros played in his first professional game.

And even though it was during the preseason, the moment was not lost on the fans, who gave Hart a standing ovation when he relieved Michal Neuvirth in the middle of the second period, or the player, who showcased an infectious smile during his postgame interview.

"Yeah, it felt good to get out there and play a real preseason game," said Hart, who had played in the annual Rookie Game exhibition the last two years. "It felt good to get out there and play in front of the home fans and with some of the big boys. It was a lot of fun."

Thanks to a defense that included three Flyers starters, Hart saw limited action and stopped all 11 shots he faced over the final 29:55 of the game. He moved well in the crease, kept himself in a good position, and looked relatively poised.

"I maybe wasn't calm at first, but as the game went on, I started to settle in," said Hart, who wore No. 79. "I thought we did a really good job of eliminating pucks to the outside. They did a really good job of collapsing at the net front."

Hart has been anointed as the Flyers' savior in goal almost since he was drafted in the second round of the 2016 draft and has not disappointed with his performance. After going 31-6-1 with a miniscule 1.60 goals against average and .947 save percentage last year with the Everett Silvertips, he was named the Western Hockey League Goalie of the Year, for the second straight year, and Player of the Year.

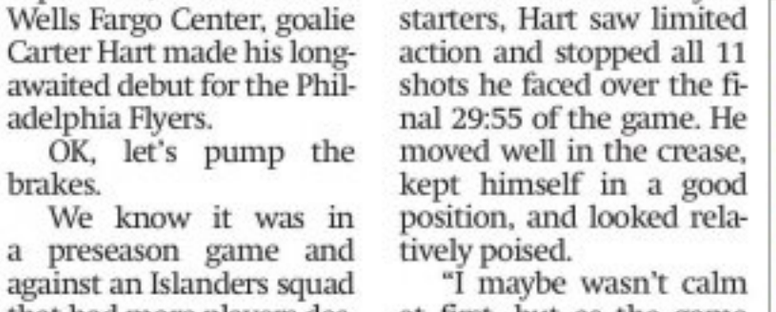
Despite his lofty junior resume and future No. 1 status, Hart is all but ticketed for the American Hockey League Lehigh Valley Phantoms, where he will face much tougher competition than he did in juniors and sharpen his skills.

"Carter continued doing what he's done through [training] camp," Flyers coach Dave Hakstol said. "He's been pretty consistent. … He's not an overactive guy in the net, especially for a young guy. He is very calm and doesn't make anything look too difficult because he is settled and really good and sound. I think it was a solid performance for him."

With Brian Elliott penciled in as the starter, as long as he is healthy, and Neuvirth as the backup, it will be difficult for Hart to achieve his goal. The more realistic scenario is for Hart to excel with the Phantoms and position himself for a possible call up to the Flyers in the spring.

Regardless, Hart took his first step toward achieving that goal against the Islanders.

Mark it down.



Carter Hart is the Flyers' goalie of the future. GETTY IMAGES

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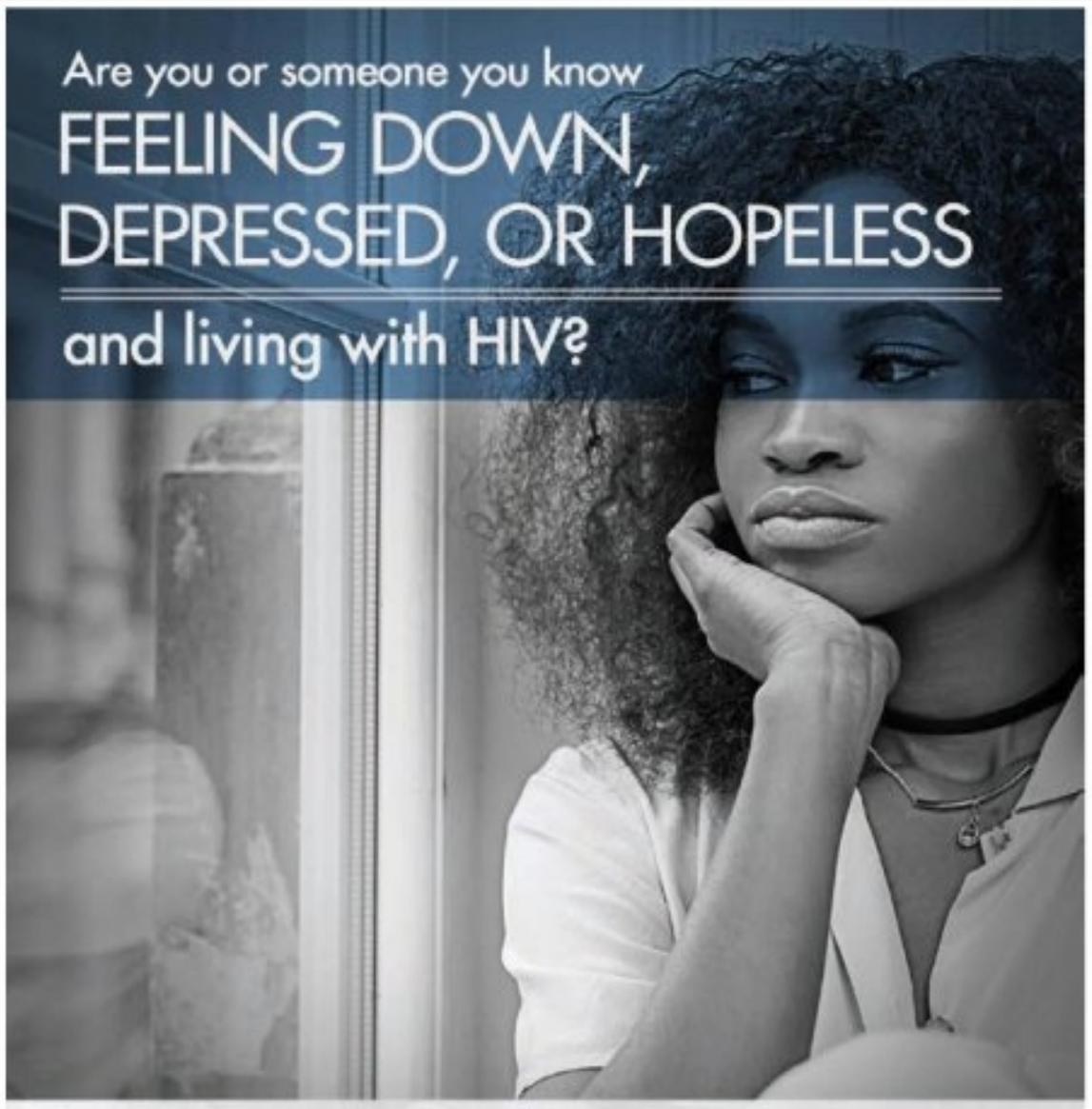

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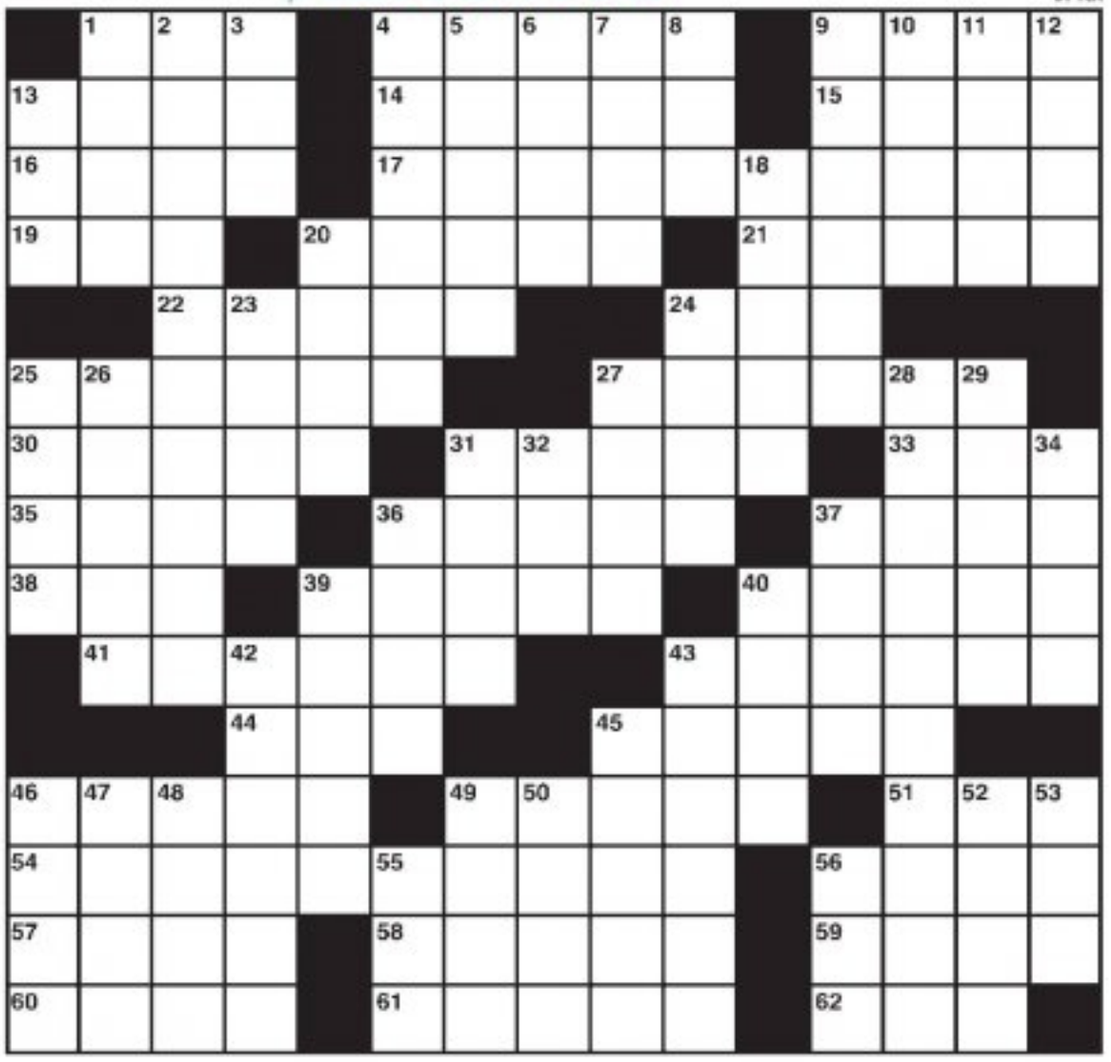

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